

Interview Summary	Application N .	Applicant(s)
	09/755,053	BERTEZ ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Jonathan Johnson	1725

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8/29/02
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All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Jonathan Johnson. (3) ____.
 (2) Eric Jensen. (4) ____.

Date of Interview: 29 August 2002.

Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference
 c) Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes e) No.
 If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1.

Identification of prior art discussed: Couch, Jr. et al. (5,653,896).

Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

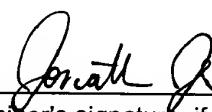
Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant's proposed amendment (attached) overcomes the rejection because the secondary reference, Couch, Jr. et al. (5,653,896) teach the use of both a reactive gas and reducing gas (abstract). If the proposed amendment were formally submitted, it would not be entered because it would require an additional search. .

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

i) It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview(if box is checked).

Unless the paragraph above has been checked, THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


 Examiner's signature, if required

DRAFT ONLY

1. A method of cutting the workpiece made of stainless steel, coated steel, aluminum or aluminum alloy,
comprising the steps of: [by the use of]

providing at least one transparent or reflecting optical means for focusing at least one laser beam,
comprising a nozzle; [and of]

providing at least one assist gas [for said laser beam] to the nozzle under pressure; and [,]

cutting the workpiece with the laser beam;

[in which] wherein the optical means is of the multifocus type, the assist gas is [oxygen or] an oxygen/nitrogen mixture, and no gas other than the assist gas is supplied to the nozzle.